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SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Sunday, August 27, 2006

www.seattle.gov/police

Message from Mayor Greg Nickels

Every day, the men and women of the Seattle Police Department help us fulfill one of the most basic duties of city government – public safety. They are the people we turn to in times of need. And they are the ones we rely on to protect our homes and loved ones.

For many, they are the human face of the city, helping to strengthen the bonds of trust and compassion. Often they are the first people to provide help to those who may be new to Seattle or new to our country. They reach out to those who may feel set apart for reasons of race or culture, or to people who may be shut in or left out. Our police officers work to build strong families and healthy communities by connecting with the people in our neighborhoods. They make our citizens feel safe and proud to live in Seattle.

Seattle is putting significant time, effort and resources into strengthening our level of preparedness and making real progress toward reducing crime. Our success is largely due to the remarkable job of Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske and the outstanding men and women of the Seattle Police Department.

Two incidents in March of this year highlight the contributions our officers make every day. On the morning of March 1, Officer Jacob Haines decided to take a slightly different patrol route and, as a result, came upon a house ablaze. He didn't hesitate to go into the burning house to see if anyone needed help. Moments later, Officer James Parnell joined him and together they saved two people and four dogs.

Without the quick thinking of these officers, these souls may have been lost.



On March 25, Officer Steve Leonard saved several lives by responding quickly and decisively to confront the man who killed six people during an early morning shooting on Capitol Hill. Officer Leonard was first on the scene of one of the worst shootings in Seattle history. He too, did not hesitate to put his own life on the line to protect others.

I'm proud to have people such as Officers Haines, Parnell and Leonard working for the Seattle Police Department. Their bravery is a testament to the police we rely on every day to keep our neighborhoods safe. These three individuals exemplify what makes Seattle so special – people going out of their way to make a difference in other people's lives.

I want to thank all of the men and women of the Seattle Police Department for your commitment, courage and extraordinary acts of bravery.

Message from Chief Gil Kerlikowske

Consider this 4-page supplement – funded by the Seattle Police Foundation – an informal report to the citizens of Seattle. We'll share a few of our recent successes. We'll describe some innovative programs on the cutting edge of law enforcement technology. We'll also touch on the challenges that still face us. Although SPD is more committed and more capable than ever, the world of criminals has also extended into new frontiers. A vital part of our mission is to stay one step ahead of those who would do harm to you or your loved ones.

The Internet is one of those new frontiers where SPD has developed a strong presence. This marks the sixth year of the Department's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. Our detectives, trained in the nascent field of computer forensics, can root out the tiniest shreds of evidence, including long-deleted files of child pornography, from miles of mangled code. The task force – one of the best in the nation – has investigated thousands of cases, resulting in more than 200 arrests.

This year the Department created a new investigative team: the Human Trafficking Task Force. This group is addressing a growing problem, one that involves the exploitation of some of the world's most vulnerable people. Local cases have involved victims that were held in virtual slavery by groups that regard human beings as just another commodity to trade, sell and use. Prostitution and forced labor are common fates for such victims.

Human Trafficking cases present unique challenges, such as how to infiltrate subgroups

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Seattle Police Foundation, a Proud Partner

Since 2002, the Foundation has grown quickly into a major support component for the Department

Ever been to a picnic at your neighborhood precinct with police officers to enjoy the day with food, music and magic?

Did you know Seattle Police recently used a "stop stick," a tool used during criminal pursuits to safely deflate tires, to assist the Lynnwood Police Department in apprehending a suspect?

Would you be interested in watching a video to understand the types of physical and mental stress police officers encounter during their career?

The reason behind all this – picnics, stop sticks and videos, including this report and over 70 other police projects and events, worth a total of over \$600,000 in support of public safety – is the Seattle Police Foundation (SPF).

People throughout Seattle, especially after September 11, wanted a way to show their support and appreciation to police officers.

So in January 2002, SPF was created in response to the outpouring community support the Seattle Police Department often receives. Working closely with Chief Gil Kerlikowske, it was spearheaded by a group of

distinguished leaders from Seattle's business, civic, religious, and academic communities.

The role of the Foundation is not to displace funding for basic police services or to reduce in any way the responsibility of the City of Seattle to commit the necessary funding for police services to its citizens.

The role of the Foundation is to raise funds that supplement the Department's existing budget and enhance the services it delivers to its employees and community as today's police services continue to become more complex.

Modeled after many other police foundations across the country, SPF allows the Department to stay current in its delivery of modern police services.

The Foundation is a registered corporation with the State of Washington and is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization. All monies raised are dedicated to our mission of professional development and community partnership.

SPF gratefully accepts donations of any size.
 For more information, please call: **(206) 684-0373**



*The **Seattle Police Foundation** provides funding for a variety of grant projects such as the BlackBerry Program. Started as a pilot project in 2004, the BlackBerry handheld devices tap directly into a variety of databases, allowing officers without easy access to a computer the ability to pull up records on the fly. Before the use of BlackBerries, officers had to radio into dispatch. The devices allow officers to be more efficient and proactive while also freeing up more time for the 9-1-1 Center to handle emergencies.*



Council President
Nick Licata chairs the
 Public Safety Committee.

Message from the City Council President

Our citizens and businesses must live in a safe city where our quality of life will not be compromised by crime.

The Seattle City Council is very proud of the work of our Seattle Police Department, and pleased to have the support of the Seattle Police Foundation. It's a strong partnership built on solid ground with great members of the community whose goal is public safety.

To that end, I'm proud to say that the Council, working with Mayor Greg

Nickels, added 25 police officers to the Department last year.

As President of the Council and Chair of the Council's Public Safety Committee, one of my goals is to see next year's city budget fund a School Resource Officer in each of our public high schools. These officers could work directly with youths in an effort to reduce juvenile crime and gang activity, while also fostering greater after-school opportunities for recreation.

Public safety must also link law

enforcement with human services to be effective in providing long-term solutions to securing safe and civil streets for our neighborhoods. As a result, we are initiating neighborhood pilot programs in Rainier Beach, Central Area and Downtown Seattle to link police services with human services in drug treatment, employment opportunities and housing for repeat offenders.

To make high-traffic intersections safer for pedestrians and motorists, the

Council and Mayor Nickels worked with Seattle Police on the red light cameras pilot project. Automatic cameras have now been installed around the city to catch motorists who endanger drivers and pedestrians by running red lights.

These are only a few examples of what we do in working to ensure the safety of our community. It is also the Council's commitment to sustain the Seattle Police Department's long history of innovation and excellence.





Life in Law Enforcement: Service and Adventure



North Precinct Officers Robin Seibert and Adam Culp represent the new field of officers entering the Department.

Their paths had crossed in the corridors of the Seattle Police Headquarters, mostly in passing. But the lives of Officers Robin Seibert and Adam Culp and Sgt. Maryann Parker intersect in a more profound way.

Seibert and Culp are just beginning their careers as police officers. Parker, after 20 years in law enforcement, is preparing to finish hers.

Each has a story to tell about what compelled them to become a police officer, what it took to join the ranks and what challenges lay ahead for them as well as the future of the Seattle Police Department.

The Department hired 90 new recruits in 2005, making for a total of 1,280 sworn personnel. It is a diverse, dynamic and ever-changing work force, making up – in the words of Chief Gil Kerlikowske – “one of the premier departments in the country.”

Born and raised in Tacoma, Seibert, the middle child of three, was a shy teenager enamored with sports and fascinated by television shows and movies about police officers. She had no relatives to fire up her interest, and her passion for police work grew independently. After high school, Seibert studied at Washington State University

and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice.

To prepare herself to become a police officer, Seibert volunteered at a juvenile detention center and later got a job as a corrections officer with the state Department of Corrections Tacoma Pre-Release Program.

“I wanted to first experience and somewhat try to understand the people in this environment,” Seibert said.

Culp’s path followed a different course.

Culp was born in Renton and raised in Federal Way. He was a graduate of Seattle Christian High School and had spent his entire life in the Seattle area. Culp wasn’t sure what he wanted to do after high school and found himself driving a forklift in a warehouse. He did that job for three years, knowing all the while that he could do better.

“The idea of becoming a police officer popped in and out of my mind,” said Culp, now 24. He had two relatives who were officers in the Seattle Police Department, and their lives seemed rich with experiences. Out of curiosity, Culp went on a ride-along with a patrol officer in the East Precinct. The ride changed his life and by the end of the ride, his mind was all but made up.

About a year ago, Seibert and Culp filled out applications at the Department. They learned about the basic requirements: You must be 20.5 years of age or older. You must be a United States citizen and have a high school diploma or equivalent. You need a Washington state driver’s license and no serious criminal convictions, including any history of illegal drug use.

Both took a written and physical fitness test, went through a few rounds of interviewing and, in the spring of 2005, were accepted into the Washington State Police Academy, which consisted of four months of classes, training and exercises.

“The training for me was intense but a lot of fun,” Culp said.

Seibert, now 26, said, “I grew as a person.”

After an additional three-and-a-half months of Seattle Police field training, Culp in February got his first assignment: patrol duty, 2nd Watch (11 a.m. to 8 p.m.), North Precinct. Seibert last month got hers: same duty, same watch, same precinct – different squad. Those days marked the official beginning of both their lives as full-fledged Seattle Police officer.

As they entered fully into their new career, Sgt. Parker, in a different part of the Department, was getting ready to retire from police work.

Parker, 53, now often looks back at her career in wonder, amazed at the twists and turns, the accomplishments, the close encounters and close relationships. The memories were not all pleasant.

It was tough going at the very beginning. She was divorced with two young children and working an unfulfilling job as a dental assistant. At age 33, she began the process of applying and testing at the Department. The Academy, along with her responsibilities at home, almost broke her. “At one point, I almost quit,” Parker said. “I got through with sheer determination.”

Her police career ran the gamut of jobs, from patrol officer to gang-intervention detective, from investigating organized crimes to busting drug rings. She rode on a horse patrol, provided security for dignitaries and used a battering ram to break through the doors of crack houses.

At 5-foot-5 and 135 pounds, Parker said she found her own ways to be effective. “Police work is not about physical strength,” she said. “There are times when strength is needed. But it’s mostly about skill and communication. It’s about using your mind and heart. It’s about assessing a situation quickly and doing what needs to be done.”

Her current job consists of supervising eight detectives who conduct thorough background checks on police applicants. So at the end of her career, she finds herself in a job that deals directly with those, like Culp and Seibert, who are just starting out. Said Parker: “I see myself in those young recruits.”

Parker will retire in February 2007 on her 20th anniversary with the Department. “I’ve had such a full and fulfilling career,” Parker said. “My work has touched so many lives. It’s been truly remarkable.”

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determined to shut out all outsiders. Language is often a barrier, as is distrust of government. The Department, more than ever, has become more global in its perspective and approach.

Few areas of policing illustrate the cooperation of local and federal agencies more than the arena of Homeland Security and emergency preparedness. The Seattle Police Department plays a crucial role in protecting this region, and in helping federal authorities protect the nation.

No city is immune from terrorist attack or natural disaster. The unthinkable can happen anywhere. But Seattle, thanks to leadership from the highest levels of city government, is one of the most prepared and most equipped cities in the United States. Our joint training efforts with the Seattle Fire Department help us to remain ahead of the curve and be ready for a natural disaster or man-made event, and we have obtained state-of-the-art training, technology and equipment.

I’d also like to reassure you that the Department, even as it advances into new fields, has worked just as hard on its primary mission – “Preventing Crime, Enforcing the Law and Delivering Respectful, Professional and Dependable Police Service” – at home, on the streets and in the neighborhoods of this great city. We’ve improved on the basics, and continue to strive to get even better.

In this report, the captains of all five precincts will share examples of police officers and citizens working together to address problems in their neighborhoods. There’s almost nothing that can’t be accomplished when we are working hand-in-hand with you. Together we are transforming this city. Much work lies ahead.

It is clear that in order to accomplish a safer city we will need more police officers in the near future. It is a growing and changing city and the Department has not kept up by adding additional officers.

After years of declining crime rates, Seattle

experienced an increase in criminal activity last year. Much of the rise was in auto theft and car prowls, which have been chronic problems for this region. We’ve implemented a number of new measures, including more effective evidence-gathering techniques and working more cooperatively so that offenders can be successfully prosecuted. The Department and our city are already seeing results.

Another area that exemplifies the Department’s doggedness is in the investigation of unsolved murders. Our Cold Case Team has re-opened and solved more than 22 murder cases in five years. Several of the homicides were committed nearly four decades ago. The Cold Case Team became even more formidable last year with the addition of a new Crime Scene Investigations (CSI) Unit. The unit consists of a group of detectives trained in the latest techniques of identifying, collecting and preserving physical evidence. Between the Cold Case detectives and the CSI Unit, the Department has brought closure to the families and friends of victims who have waited a long time for justice. The teams have reinforced our vow to criminals that Seattle is not a place where one can get away with murder.

For all of these accomplishments – the credit belongs to the men and women of the Department who make the wheels turn. They are exceptional and they are also human beings who sometimes make mistakes. They are also your friends and neighbors. Their children attend the same schools as yours. They shop at the same stores. And they share the same concerns. We all want a safe place to live.

If there’s anything in this message, or in this report, that you’d like to hear more about, I’d be glad to elaborate or to direct you to the right person. On weekends, you can find me – along with Anna and Belle – walking through Myrtle Edwards Park or Green Lake or Downtown or some other great Seattle neighborhood. We might be talking with a fellow resident or just admiring another Seattle sunset.

Feel free to introduce yourself. I’d be happy to talk.

On the Front Lines of Emergency Preparedness



A Bomb Squad detective adjusts a bomb suit for a training exercise.

It is the men and women behind the Seattle Police Department Emergency Preparedness Bureau who think about the unthinkable, and beyond that – to plan and prepare as if the worst could happen tomorrow: a terrorist attack, a catastrophic earthquake, or a biological/chemical accident.

The Bureau consists of a highly diversified team of officers, analysts and emergency planners who were led by now retired Assistant Chief Ted Jacoby and Captain Michael Sanford. Their efforts, and the infusion of more than \$30 million in federal grants, have made Seattle one of the most prepared cities in the country. The Bureau was created by Mayor Greg Nickels shortly after the September 11 attacks.

“Mayor Nickels made a commitment to be prepared,” Capt. Sanford said. “When we train and practice with other major cities, we benchmark ourselves against them to ensure that we are as advanced and prepared as possible.”

One such area is in detecting and diffusing explosives. Using state-of-the-art technology, police investigators can detect bombs in the most hidden places and in every kind of environment. The teams have also trained to disable explosive devices before any harm occurs.

“If you look across the world in the past ten years, the number one tool used to inflict great damage has been explosives,” Sanford said.

Seattle has conducted numerous exercises to test the city’s response to a bomb attack, including the massive 2003 anti-terrorism exercise called TopOff2, which simulated the detonation of a radiological device, also called a “dirty bomb,” in the city core. It was the largest exercise of its kind in the nation and the first after September 11, involving a huge network of local and federal agencies.

The response to a large-scale emergency would involve a massive mobilization of agencies, but among those on the front lines – the first-responders – would be police officers and fire fighters. They would play a key role in the critical hours before, during and after an emergency.

A natural disaster, such as a big earthquake, could be equally catastrophic for the city.

The Bureau, in cooperation with the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, Health and Human Services, Transportation, and local agencies, has determined which building structures, neighborhoods and special populations would be most vulnerable. Buildings and bridges are being retrofitted, neighborhoods have been organized and evacuation plans have been set in place.

The city installed and tested a new public alert system along the Elliott Bay waterfront, and plans are underway to extend the network. Early warning could save more lives than anything else.

Want a career where you can really make a difference?

The Seattle Police Department is hiring entry-level and lateral-entry officers. We are also hiring for civilian 9-1-1 dispatchers. Make immediate and positive impacts every day in a law enforcement career that provides job security, generous medical and retirement benefits, and competitive salaries. SPD is an equal opportunity employer that encourages diversity in the workforce.

visit > seattlepolicejobs.com



Keeping Seattle Safe

Seattle continues to be one of America’s safest big cities

The reputation that Seattle is a safe city comes from our low rate of violent crimes. Last year’s violent crime rate in murder, rape, robbery, and assault made Seattle the 8th safest city among the 25 largest cities.

The most serious crimes of murder, rape, robbery, an assault with a weapon or an assault that causes serious injury, burglary to homes and businesses, theft, and auto theft are the major crimes tracked across the country by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. They also track these crimes once they are solved.

Auto thefts and related crimes such as car prowls have been a major problem in Seattle and the Puget Sound region for the past several years. Auto thefts in the city rose 7 percent in 2004 and another 3 percent in 2005.

In response to this problem, the Seattle Police Department began a series of auto theft reduction initiatives last year. These included a task force to target prolific car thieves, working with prosecutors to prioritize auto theft cases, and a pilot program with the Seattle City Attorney and the King County Prosecutor for expedited sentencing.

Starting in August 2005, auto thefts began to decrease and for the second half of the year they were down 14 percent from the same period in 2004. The good news has also continued for auto thefts and related crimes. Through June 2006, auto thefts are down 27 percent, car prowls are down 45 percent and thefts of auto accessories are down 2 percent.

A concerning crime trend we have noticed has been the increase in aggravated assaults in the last two years. Aggravated assaults are attacks by

one person upon another with the intent to severely cause and/or inflict bodily injury. These assaults often involve the display, threat, or use of a firearm, knife or other deadly weapon.

Aggravated assaults for 2005 were up 15 percent over the number in 2004. For the first six months of 2006, these crimes have

increased 12 percent from their level in 2005. A particularly troubling aspect of these assaults has been the rise in those involving firearms. For the first six months of 2006, aggravated assaults with firearms are up 36 percent compared with the same period in 2005 and 66 percent compared with the first six months of 2004. Because of this trend, we are focusing on firearms violence and on identifying patterns that lead to violent encounters with firearms. Mayor Nickels has been a key leader among big-city mayors to reduce gun violence.

One key element to controlling crime is to hold offenders accountable. The Department does this through follow-up investigations designed to gather evidence and identify perpetrators. When detectives are able to piece together the evidence and link that to an offender, crimes are recorded as solved or cleared.

Our rates for solving serious crimes for 2005 met or exceeded those of comparable cities in all crimes except auto theft.



A Seattle Police detective from the Crime Scene Investigation Unit (CSI) dusts a drinking glass for fingerprints. The CSI responds to all major crime scenes including homicides, sexual assaults, kidnappings and officer-involved shootings to properly process and document the scenes. This enables the detectives from other responding units to focus their efforts on interviewing involved parties and quickly track down potential leads in a case.

A Closer Look at Crime in Seattle

First Six Months of Data from January - June 2006

Crime Trends

	First 6 months 2005	First 6 months 2006	First 6 months % of Change	YTD # of cases Cleared	YTD % of cases Cleared
Murder	18	14	-22.2%	10	71.4%
Rape	71	71	0.0%	27	38.0%
Robbery	764	744	-2.6%	231	31.0%
Aggravated Assaults	1,065	1,195	12.2%	543	45.4%
Burglary	3,068	3,503	14.1%	345	9.8 %
Theft	14,258	11,120	-22.0%	1,382	12.4%
Auto Theft	5,125	3,741	-27.0%	185	4.9%
Total	24,369	20,388	-16.3%	2,723	13.3%

9-1-1 Center Operations | Calls for Service

	Incoming Calls (Police, Fire, Medical)	Average Speed of Answer (in seconds)	911 Center Actions (non-dispatch)	Calls Dispatched to SPD Field Units	Traffic Stops logged by SPD Field Units	On-View Incidents logged by Field Units
January	68,447	2.42	5,804	19,504	3,259	14,251
February	63,467	2.54	5,876	18,365	3,216	13,081
March	70,503	2.87	6,062	20,147	3,047	14,598
April	68,078	2.53	5,789	19,595	2,912	13,428
May	71,343	2.35	5,947	21,335	2,877	15,675
June	76,339	2.73	6,400	22,192	2,730	15,801
First 6 months 2006 TOTALS	418,177	2.57	35,878	121,138	18,041	86,834
First 6 months 2005 TOTALS	420,357	2.36	39,056	122,058	17,731	87,677

Top 10 Types of Calls Dispatched

1. Traffic/Parking: 23,847
2. Disturbance Calls: 18,279
3. Theft: 14,170
4. Suspicious Circ.: 13,903
5. Auto Theft: 7,529
6. Alarms: 6,534
7. Liquor Violations: 6,406
8. Domestic Disturbance: 5,633
9. Assault: 4,522
10. Assist the Public: 4,498

Assaults Made on Officers by Type of Weapon and Event*

Type of Weapon Used	Type of Event										Total All Event Types	# With Injury	# Without Injury
	Disturbance Calls	Burglaries	Robberies	Attempted Other Arrest	Civil Disorder	Handling Prisoners	Suspicious Persons/Circ.	Mentally Impaired	Traffic Pursuits	All Other Events			
Firearm	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	5	1	4
Knife/Cutting Instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	3
Other Dangerous Weapon	7	0	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	14	2	12
Hands, Fists, or Feet	49	12	0	36	0	9	25	7	6	14	158	51	107
Total All Weapons	58	12	0	39	0	9	29	12	6	15	180	54	126

* Based on Time Period from January - June 2006

About the Seattle Police Department

General Information

- Organization of Seattle Police Department : June 2, 1886
- Population of Seattle (2005) : 573,000
- Area of Seattle (square miles) : 143

Personnel & Organization

Department Personnel:

- Sworn Total 1,280
- Civilian Personnel 514
- Student Officers 44
- Department Total 1,838

Command Staff:

- Chief R. Gil Kerlikowske
- Deputy Chief Clark Kimerer
- Deputy Chief John Diaz
- Assistant Chief Linda Pierce
- Assistant Chief Harry Bailey
- Assistant Chief Nick Metz
- Assistant Chief Jim Pugel
- Assistant Chief Jim Pryor
- OPA Director Sam Pailca

Nationally Accredited

The Seattle Police Department is a nationally accredited police agency and meets the high standards of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Meeting the highest law enforcement standards in the nation and delivering the best law enforcement services to this community is very important to the men and women of the Department. CALEA is an independent accrediting authority to improve the delivery of law enforcement services. The accreditation – sought voluntarily – evaluates our compliance with over 400 professional standards in law enforcement functions and issues. Of the 25 largest cities in the nation, Seattle became one of only four agencies to have been accredited three years ago.

Training and Best Practices

Advanced training and learning best police practices make a progressive and responsive police agency. In 2000, the Seattle Police Department developed a mandatory refresher, four-day course called Street Skills to train police officers on the latest techniques and best practices. Our commitment is to provide the men and women of the Department the necessary skills and abilities needed to do their jobs safely and effectively. The use of force is one of many topics discussed. It is estimated that over 99 percent of police encounters with the public in the nation occur without the use of force. In Seattle, the use of force occurs even less frequently. In 2005, only 0.153 percent of all police contacts resulted in any use of force by Seattle Police officers. Today, our training program is regarded as one of the top training programs in the country.

Accountability and Transparency

A police agency earns respect by being transparent, answerable and accountable to the community it serves. One of the key methods for ensuring police accountability at the Seattle Police Department is through the Office of Professional Accountability (OPA). The OPA was established in 2001 and provides citizen oversight and administration of the process for complaints of police misconduct. For more information on the OPA, visit www.seattle.gov/police/opa.

Giving Back to the Community

The Seattle Police Department participates in a number of annual giving events: Bacon Bowl Association, a group that raises money for childrens' charities; Toys for Tots, an event that collects toys for needy youngsters during the holidays; Special Olympics Washington, a sports tournament for children and adults with intellectual disabilities; and many more.



Joining Forces: Officers and Neighbors Fight Back



East Precinct officers talk to men outside of Cal Anderson Park. After shared community clean up efforts, the Seattle Police Department continues to actively patrol the park to keep drug and nuisance problems at bay.

Thugs had taken over the strip: that long busy stretch of Highway 99 in North Seattle known as the Aurora Corridor was no longer a place where neighborhood residents felt safe.

Drug-dealers and buyers prowled the sidewalks. Prostitutes and johns hooked up in parking lots and back alleys. Gunshots and stabbings occurred routinely, and the disorder seemed to be getting worse.

Then in the fall of 2005, something happened. Residents and police officers began working together to re-claim the strip. After months of coordinated policing, the Aurora Corridor has seen a significant improvement. Crime is down, and families have started to return to the streets and sidewalks of the bustling neighborhood.

"It was a matter of committed residents deciding to own their neighborhood," said North Precinct Captain Michael Washburn. "Their effort magnified our effort. The corridor is now a different place."

The remarkable success on Aurora Avenue is one of numerous examples of police and community partnerships that have transformed neighborhoods throughout Seattle. Each of the Department's five precincts has experienced noteworthy gains in re-claiming troubled areas. And each success has affirmed Chief Gil Kerlikowske's belief that nothing is impossible when officers and citizens work together.

Along the Aurora Corridor, the turning point began last August when a Block Watch captain was assaulted by drug dealers. Residents banded together and formed a group called Greenwood Aurora Involved Neighbors (GAIN) whose leaders began meeting regularly with North Precinct officers. GAIN members started monitoring the street and reporting information such as busy drug-dealing and prostitution spots. They provided key intelligence, including Internet messages in chat rooms between dealers, prostitutes and customers. Officers responded with undercover sting operations and "emphasis patrols" that targeted these areas.

"We executed a full-court press to let criminals know we were there in a big way," said Capt. Washburn. Over several months, the criminal element began to break up and disperse. "Now it's a safer area and we plan to keep it that way with GAIN's help."

On Capitol Hill, a four-square-block strip of greenery called Cal Anderson Park had become a hotbed of drug-dealing and illicit sexual activity. It was also a haven for transients and homeless youth.

East Precinct Captain Landy Black described the scenario: "There were needles on the ground, broken bottles and trash, people sleeping everywhere and sex acts taking place in the

bathroom. It was horrible."

With prompting from a citizen group called Friends of Cal Anderson Park, the Department joined efforts with the Seattle Parks Department to execute a make-over. While park workers began regular clean-ups, foot and bicycle officers dramatically increased their patrols. In 2005 the city undertook a major renovation of the park.

"It's now one of the most beautiful urban parks you'll ever see," said Capt. Black. "You'll see families on picnics, mothers and young children sitting on benches and kids flying kites. The park went from being an eyesore to a show piece."

The residents of Seattle's Beacon Hill neighborhood faced a similar problem along a 100-acre strip of greenbelt that ran along Interstate 5. The greenbelt, which had come to be known as "The Jungle," was notorious for housing numerous transient encampments.

Some of the structures were elaborate bunker style camps made of mud, logs and tarps. The camp denizens would routinely raid Beacon Hill households for supplies. Theft, car prowls and drug-dealing became commonplace in the neighborhood.

Two citizen groups – the Beacon Alliance of Neighbors and the Northwest Beacon Hill Community Council – began working with police and other agencies to clear out The Jungle.

Between 2003 and 2004, more than 67 tons of garbage was hauled out, including all of the encampments. A new access road allowed South Precinct officers to begin regular patrols. The transients were forced to move out.

Said South Precinct Captain Tom Byers: "With neighbors keeping watch, and patrol officers coming through, there are a lot more eyes and ears to make sure the place doesn't go back to being The Jungle."

In West Seattle, a noteworthy partnership has involved not solving a current issue but preparing for a possible future one, namely a natural disaster. Emergency preparedness is seen as essential in a place so dependent upon bridges. An event such as a large earthquake could render the place an island, according to Southwest Precinct Captain Michael Fann.

Using the Block Watch system already in place, officers have begun working with Block Watch captains to make sure the region is prepared for the worst. In coordination with more than 800 Block Watch groups, officers are working on strategies to alert residents, provide emergency supplies and shelter, and facilitate mass evacuations if necessary.

"It is a constant process of assessment and re-assessment," said Capt. Fann. "We're moving ahead and making progress."

Finally, in the city's downtown core, members of the West Precinct have started meeting regularly with community leaders in the International District, one of Seattle's oldest and most diverse neighborhoods. In a recent meeting, talks were conducted in both English and Cantonese. Residents voiced concerns over street crimes, and officers have been able to use the community input to focus their efforts, and numerous arrests have been made.

Just as important, West Precinct officers have formed relationships with citizens who, in the past, have shown reluctance.

"Some groups, for cultural reasons, are not inclined to reach out to police," said West Precinct Captain Jim Pryor, now an Assistant Chief. The meetings have helped to soften some of the barriers. Where once there were no lines of communication, today there is a constant flow of information. The impact on crime in the area has been significant. As is often the case in police-community partnerships, officers have been better able to help neighborhoods help themselves.

PRESENTED BY THE SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOURCE AND CONTACT DIRECTORY

9-1-1

206-625-5011
206-706-0051
206-386-1800
206-386-1218

SEATTLE POLICE

206-684-8763
206-684-7111
206-684-4689
206-386-9766
206-684-7724
206-684-7717
206-684-4730
206-684-4741
206-343-2020
206-684-0330
206-233-5076
206-684-8797
206-733-9314

PUBLIC SERVICES

206-386-7387
206-722-3700
206-296-4769
206-443-9603
206-296-3551
206-461-3222
800-562-6025
206-684-7587
206-684-7587
800-562-6078
206-386-1400
206-684-5600

Emergencies: Police – Fire – Medic One

Non-Emergency Police (24/7)
Seattle City Light (Emergencies after 6 p.m.)
Seattle Public Utilities (Emergencies after 6 p.m.)
Seattle Transportation – Street Repairs/Maintenance

Abandoned Vehicles
Crime Prevention – North Precinct
East of Aurora Avenue N.
Crime Prevention – North Precinct
West of Aurora Avenue N.
Crime Prevention – South Precinct
Crime Prevention – Southwest Precinct
Crime Prevention – East Precinct
Crime Prevention – West Precinct (Commercial)
Crime Prevention – West Precinct (Residential)
Crime Stoppers
Domestic Violence
Emergency Management
Office of Professional Accountability Investigations
Public Records – Accident Reports, Criminal Records Check, Concealed Pistol License, and Fingerprinting

Animal Control
Alcohol & Drug Treatment Hotline
Birth & Death Certificates
Neighborhood Disputes – Dispute Resolution Center
Court Orders – King County
24-Hour Crisis Clinic Hotline (www.crisisclinic.org)
Domestic Abuse & Violence Hotline
Graffiti Hotline
Illegal Dumping
Nursing Home Complaints & Abuse
Seattle Fire – General Information
Seattle Municipal Court

POLICE LOCATIONS

Seattle Police Headquarters
615 Fifth Avenue
P.O. Box 34986
Seattle WA 98124-4986
206-684-5577
www.seattle.gov/police

West Precinct
810 Virginia Street
Seattle WA 98101
206-684-8917
Serving the Belltown, Denny Triangle, Downtown Seattle, Eastlake, International District-Chinatown, Magnolia, Pioneer Square, Queen Anne, SODO, and South Lake Union neighborhoods.

East Precinct
1519-12th Avenue
Seattle WA 98122
206-684-4300
Serving the Capitol Hill, Central Area, First Hill, Judkins Park, Madison Park, Montlake, and Pike/Pine neighborhoods.

Southwest Precinct
2300 SW Webster Street
Seattle WA 98106
206-733-9800
Serving the Admiral, Alki, Delridge, Georgetown, Greater Duwamish, Morgan Junction, South Park, West Seattle, and Westwood-Highland Park neighborhoods

North Precinct
10049 College Way N.
Seattle WA 98133
206-684-0850
Serving the Aurora, Ballard, Bitter Lake, Blue Ridge, Broadview, Carkeek, Crown Hill, Fremont, Green Lake, Greenwood, Haller Lake, Hawthorne Hills, Lake City, Laurelhurst, Licton Springs, Loyal Heights, Maple Leaf, Matthews Beach, Meadowbrook, North Seattle, Northgate, Olympic Manor, Phinney Ridge, Ravenna Bryant, Roosevelt, Sand Point, Sunset Hill, Thornton Creek, University District, View Ridge, Wallingford, Wedgewood, and Whittier Heights neighborhoods.

South Precinct
3001 S. Myrtle Street
Seattle WA 98108
206-386-1850
Serving the Columbia, Hillman, Genesee, Martin Luther King, Holly Park, Beacon/North Beacon Hill, North Rainier, Rainier Beach, Pritchard Beach, and Seward Park neighborhoods.

TIPS FOR CALLING 9-1-1

3 main reasons to call 9-1-1:

- When you have a police, fire or medical emergency.
- To report a crime that is in progress or has just occurred.
- When there is suspicious activity involving individuals or vehicles that appear to be criminal in intent.

3 steps to follow when you call:

- Briefly explain what is happening.
- Give your name, the phone number you are calling from, the location of the emergency and any other directional information.
- Do not hang-up until the operator tells you it is okay.

3 important notes about 9-1-1:

- Do not hang-up if you accidentally call – stay on the line and let the operator know.
- Callers who speak limited - to no English are encouraged to ask for an interpreter.
- Most 9-1-1 emergency calls are free.

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Sunday, August 27, 2006